

1 combination of said micronutrient metal cation, a water-soluble polyphosphate, and a  
2 water-soluble citric acid salt; the proportion of said polyphosphate to said citric acid salt  
3 being about 0.5 to 10 parts by weight of polyphosphate, measured as  $P_2O_5$ , to one part by  
4 weight of citric acid salt, measured as citric acid." The Examiner is respectfully directed  
5 to the fact that there is no polyphosphate present in your applicant's claim and no  
6 polyphosphate in the ratio claimed in Parham claim 1 from which remaining Parham  
7 claims depend.

8 In your applicants prior paper, the following comments were found: Parham's  
9 invention contains three components, a micronutrient (from the group listed), a water-  
10 soluble polyphosphate, and a water-soluble citric acid salt. The Examiner is respectfully  
11 directed to the following: Your applicant's invention, simply stated, contains none of  
12 these. Your applicant's invention

13 (1) does not contain micronutrients much less any of the micronutrients within the  
14 group in Claim 1 of Parham.

15 (2) does mention an interaction with metallic cations in the soil. However, these  
16 are not being supplied as micronutrients, and further comprise a hindrance to the  
17 transport of phosphate and nothing more. Any metallic cation in the soil will  
18 become more soluble in the presence of any acid. To reject this patent on this  
19 basis would mean that Parham precludes the addition of any acid to soil, because  
20 the side-effect is that the micronutrients in the soil will become more soluble and  
21 facilitate plant uptake.

22 (3) doesn't use a polyphosphate but rather uses a monophosphate fertilizer.

23 (4) doesn't use a citric acid salt but uses citric acid.

24 Claims referring to a polyphosphate compound have been cancelled including  
25 claims 11, 24 and 37. Claims 1, 16 and 29 have been amended to include the limitation

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28 on October 26, 2001 by Floyd E. Ivey.

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1 of "a monoammonium phosphate" as the fertilizer.

2 **SUMMARY OF SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE**

3 The applicant has submitted this Second Supplemental Response on October 25,  
4 2001, to correct entries under "Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103" set out in  
5 applicant's Supplemental Response of October 24, 2001.

6 Respectfully submitted,

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14 **CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION:**

15 The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted  
16 to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703) 872 9362; 305-3602 on October 26,  
17 2001.

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19 Signature

20 Floyd E. Ivey

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